

Summary of the Invention

The present invention provides patentability search reports and methods for producing same. The search reports of the present invention include a listing of prior art turned up during the course of a patentability search for a proposed invention, in addition to statements pointing out the differences between the features of the proposed invention and those contained in the prior art. However, a report according to the present invention also includes a draft patent claim, which is preferably drafted by a patent Practitioner. By constructing a draft claim, it is possible for the writer of the report to put themselves in the place of a Patent Examiner and make a mock rejection(s) of the draft patent claim based upon the prior art identified during the course of the search. A report according to the invention may include a discussion of the merits of such mock rejections, and rebuttal arguments presented, including suggested means for obviating such mock rejections. Since the report according to a preferred form of the invention contains search results, a draft claim, a mock rejection, and a rebuttal thereto, it is convenient to refer to a report according to the invention as a Preliminary Patent Prosecution Report™.